

## ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

A system and methods for sharing configuration information with multiple services, or processes, via shared memory. The configuration information, typically, comprises runtime  
5 information utilized by processes during operation, including without limitation, information describing data communication connections between the local computer and other computing resources (i.e., port and wire information), and information defining numeric values or character string values (i.e., genre and record information). The system architecture includes a plurality of APIs which: reside at the local computer; populate, manage, and control access to a shared  
10 memory containing the configuration information; and, are executable only by processes executing at the local computer, thereby limiting access to the shared memory. Access to the configuration information is further limited to only those processes identified as having appropriate permission. The methods enable the configuration information of the shared memory to be modified during local computer operation and without impeding access to the  
15 configuration information.